

A HOLIDAY FROM THE BUDGET

PEERS RESTING THEIR VOICES
—HOPES OF THE UNIONISTS.

New York and Berlin Figure Grotesquely in British Campaign—Death and the Treasury Lost an Estate—Art Windfall—Xmas Parties and Charity.

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCH TO THE SUN.
LONDON, Dec. 25.—The Christmas lull in the political campaign is welcome to everybody. Battle will be rejoined Tuesday. The peers must leave the arena on January 3, after which they are not allowed by the immemorial custom of Great Britain to participate in electioneering work so far as addressing meetings is concerned, but between Tuesday and that date the peers are booked for hard work, thirty-five of them addressing 113 public meetings in all parts of the country within that period.

This unprecedented flood of lordly eloquence does not seem thus far to have had any great effect. Lords Curzon and Milner have probably done their cause good service, but in reviewing the first weeks of the campaign a Unionist paper is obliged to confess that "with the best cause in the world the Unionists are lamentably lacking in men who appeal to the imagination and more especially the sensational interest of the electorate." It says voters require to be interested as well as instructed, and it is afraid that they for the most part are more deeply impressed by the purple patches of Mr. Lloyd-George and the daring inexactitudes of Winston Churchill than by the cultivated, thoughtful arguments of Lord Curzon and Walter Long.

This is undoubtedly true and the Unionists are now relying chiefly on that mysterious factor well known as the silent voter. Certainly the noisy ones who attend their meetings give them little encouragement.

CHRISTMAS AND THE TARIFF.
Apart from the budget and the House of Lords, New York and Berlin have perhaps been the most prominent features in the political fight during the last ten days. One wonders what kind of idea the unsophisticated, untravelled Britisher has of Christmas conditions in these two great cities.

One set of newspapers referring pitifully to New York's bread lines and the enormous cost of every kind of provisions there. Then turning to Berlin these papers draw a harrowing picture of German workmen living on sour black bread, horse sausages and dogs' flesh, while unemployment is rife throughout the fatherland.

The other papers declare that America celebrates Christmas joyfully. Prices are high, but money is abundant. Unemployment is rare, while Berlin is described as a paradise for workmen, for whom tradesmen have had to stock their shops with goods at twice and thrice the cost that humbler customers could afford.

It is needless to say that the artistic writers whose descriptions of New York and Berlin would make those cities appear to have a good claim on the charity of this happy free trade country in the form, say, of a gigantic Mansion House fund are pointing out the deadly results of a tariff, while those who would persuade the English that the inhabitants of New York and Berlin are reveling in an excess of prosperity attribute the universal wealth to the blessings of protection.

It is crude, childish stuff and gives some excuse to the National Zeitung of Berlin for concluding that "when one reads what is written in England about Germany one must assume that the English electors are credited with suffering from temporary mental derangement before and during elections."

TREASURY'S FAT GIFT.
The Treasury reaps a fine Christmas gift from an estate which has already this year provided the Chancellor of the Exchequer with a fine windfall. Ellen Morrison, who died on Thursday, was the third member of a family of four millionaires who have died within the last seven months. Charles Morrison, dying seven months ago practically an unknown man, left an estate estimated in value at \$90,000,000. There was paid immediately on account of death duties on his estate the sum of \$5,500,000. The succession duties brought the total contribution to the Treasury up to \$7,500,000, and there is a further vast sum of death duties to come, the first payment being simply on account.

The value of Charles Morrison's bequests to his sister Ellen, who died Thursday, was some \$10,000,000. The death duties on this, amounting to \$1,500,000, must now be paid again, while other charges on the remaining \$8,500,000 will bring the total up to \$2,825,000. Only a few days ago Mr. Morrison's sister-in-law died. Her contribution to the State was on some millions of pounds sterling Charles had left.

So this one estate within seven months will have paid in death, succession and estate duties nearly \$15,000,000 to the State. There yet remains alive a fourth member of the millionaire quartet, Walter Morrison, who inherited a couple of million pounds sterling from Charles. He now inherits from Ellen both the money and the estates she inherited from Charles, and as Walter was born in 1838 Charles's fortune may be expected ere many years pass to still further benefit the revenue.

It should be noted that in the above figures Charles Morrison's fortune alone is taken into account. His sister and sister-in-law were extremely wealthy in their own right, as is also Walter Morrison, and the contributions of the estates of the two former have been in addition to those noted as being on money left them by Charles Morrison.

RASH POLO CHALLENGE.
Although the Field in discussing the Hurlingham's challenge to the American poloists explicitly disavows any spirit of antagonism, it has evidently little faith in the club's ability to put a winning team in the field within the time given. The decision to issue a challenge, the paper says, had been received with astonishment by the polo public. It doubts if sufficient funds can be collected, and believes that the interval between May and August is wholly inadequate for the necessary preparations, when the Americans spent seven years and \$100,000 under the very thorough supervision of Mr. Whitney before they could win the cup. The paper adds:

"Have we then the conceit to believe that in twelve or fourteen weeks we can outstrip opponents who have proved themselves unmistakably superior and left behind the impression that no British combination could have defeated them. The Englishman is not constitutionally so tractable as his American cousin. He will not submit to the same grind of training, first for individual strokes and then for combination strokes."

American team directed by personal authority the chief thing lacking in England is a proper leader.

THE BRITISH SCHOOLBOY.

The head masters of England's public schools hold a conference every year at which such topics are discussed as how much time ought to be devoted to Greek or whether English should be taught. This year, however, for the first time the subject of imperial interests was taken up and the conference voted to assist the league formed to assist public schoolboys who emigrate to the colonies.

The proposer of the resolution spoke of the thousands of Americans who are sweeping annually into the northwest of Canada, absorbing the land and trade until in view of the eager life, spirit of progress and absorbing manhood of the American people he asked whether in fifteen or twenty years the flag flying over the Government buildings in Ottawa would be the Union Jack or the Stars and Stripes.

The speaker gave an unexaggerated picture of the unenviable reputation young Englishmen enjoy in the colonies, which, he explained, is due to the worst cases always being exported until the Canadians are convinced that the English public schoolboy is a failure and a sham. The scheme which the conference has now approved is to assist the organization to send out material to disprove this belief.

SALTING ART COLLECTION SAVED.
All fears for the fate of George Salting's art collection have been dispelled by the publication of Mr. Salting's will, dated in 1890, by which he bequeaths such pictures as the trustees may select to the National Gallery. His prints and drawings will go to the British Museum, while the South Kensington Museum will receive all his other collections, whether they are at the museums already or in his rooms, which were crowded with priceless objects scattered pell mell until they resembled a curiosity shop.

The only drawback to the connoisseurs' delight over the bequest is the stipulation in the will that the collections must be kept together and not distributed over the various sections of the museums. Mr. Salting's collection, already on loan at the Victoria and Albert Museum, numbers 3,500 articles, the value of most of them varying from \$2,500 to \$5,000 each.

At Lord Amherst's sale last year Mr. Salting paid over \$3,100 for two wings of a little triptych of images enamel by Nardou Penicaut, representing the procession to Calvary and the descent from the cross. When he bid this high price for the incomplete work Mr. Salting knew what nobody else was aware of—that he already possessed the central portion of the triptych.

A typical story of his careful habits refers to the Spitzer sale in Paris. He attended the first few days, upsetting all the dealers' calculations by bidding freely until he had spent \$200,000. Before the sale concluded, a connoisseur connected with the British Museum was surprised to meet him in Bond Street.

"I was obliged to return," he explained sorrowfully, "my return ticket would have expired."

CHRISTMAS GIVING.

There are few persons in London this Christmas who are not receiving some benefit from the season. Apparently Londoners have been deeply moved by the stories of poverty in their midst, for never have the Salvation Army and other charitable organizations received more contributions of money to be used in giving Christmas dinners to street waifs. One newspaper appealed to its readers for Christmas puddings. The appeal was so generously answered that the newspaper was able to distribute 37,000 puddings among poor children. The Queen contributed a hundred puddings, as well as providing 500 outcasts frequenting the Embankment with warm garments.

Mrs. Ronalds, with the help of a friend, was able to distribute food, blankets, coal and clothing to 568 destitute men, women and children. Other Americans who gave widely to poor people as well as to organizations were the Duchess of Roxburghe and Ladies Craven and Alastair Innes-Kerr.

The hospitals are keeping Christmas with true holiday spirit, donations having poured in on them. The decorations are lavish, while Christmas trees, with presents for all the patients, and variety entertainments after dinner were the order of the day.

NO COUNTRY BOSS.
There was a tremendous exodus from London on Friday. The railway stations were packed with people going to country house parties over the holidays or on the way to join friends on the Continent.

W. Phillips started for Yorkshire, where he is the guest of Lord and Lady Middleton.

Mr. and Mrs. Orr took an early train for Lyndhurst.

Amendador Reid left on Friday for Hertfordshire, where he will spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. John Ward.

Lord and Lady Bateman motored down to Shobdon Court. They are having as guests Lady Bateman's mother and brother.

Sir George and Lady Cooper have a large house party at their country place. They will give a dance Monday night.

The Duchess of Marlborough has invited several English friends for Christmas to her villa at San Raphael, where she has taken her younger son, hoping the climate will benefit his health.

Mr. and Mrs. Jordan L. Mott, who recently took a house in Great Cumberland Place, are the guests of Mrs. G. Leslie over Christmas.

The Countess Fappenheim is one of the few American hostesses now in town. She will give an informal dinner to-night, as does also Mrs. Ritchie, who is spending Christmas at her house in Cadogan Square.

"IMPROVED" ON WAGNER.
Mascagni Chepe and Changes Score of "Tristan and Isolde." Which Falls Flat.

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCH TO THE SUN.
ROME, Dec. 25.—Mascagni, the composer, who is the leader of the Costanzi orchestra, has stirred up indignation among music lovers, especially Wagnerites, who abound even in Italy. Costanzi's season opened with "Tristan and Isolde," and it was not a success. Possibly this was because many passages had been arbitrarily suppressed or unnecessarily altered. Mascagni defended this sacrilege as due to the limitations of his orchestra.

The opera, however, that Mascagni habitually "improves" the compositions he leads.

NAVAL AGREEMENT DENIED.
German Announcement That Armaments Won't Be Limited.

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCH TO THE SUN.
BERLIN, Dec. 25.—A semi-official note stating that the German Government denies the rumor of an Anglo-German understanding regarding the limitation of naval armaments, which Dr. Rohrbach, the well-known writer of foreign and colonial questions, declared had been reached.

CITY'S BUGS BITE POLICEMAN

MEDICINE HE GIVES THE LAITY
ALL THE TIME SURPRISES HIM.

Formaldehyde, Carbon Disulphide, Sulphurous Acid, Larkspur Soap, Chloride of Lime and Plain White Wash. Among the Possible Results of a Fight at a Christmas Eve Ball.

A fight that nearly took on the proportions of a riot broke up a ball at the National Bohemian Hall, in Seventy-third street near First Avenue, at 1 o'clock yesterday morning and brought out the fact that the city, in defiance of the Board of Health, keeps bugs to bite police prisoners. They bit a policeman this time; and he mentioned it.

One policeman went from the hall to the hospital with a possible fracture of the skull, another policeman was locked up on a charge of trying to rescue a prisoner, and a mere lay dancer went to the hospital with a policeman's bullet in his right leg.

The ball was given by the Joe Polack Association and was attended by several hundred young men and women. There were dinners and other social functions in rooms of the big building.

The fight began in a room off the dancing floor where refreshments were served. There had been good business in the refreshment line and glasses and bottles were handy for weapons.

There are two factions in the Bohemian colony based on social rivalry. Information came to ex-Assemblyman M. J. Macchacek, manager of the hall, that there was likely to be trouble between the two factions at the dance. He went to Capt. Hughes of the East Sixty-seventh street station and asked that some policemen in plain clothes be sent to the hall. The captain sent plain clothes Policemen Harry McCutcheon and James Devine.

It was nearly midnight when the festivities got into full swing, but refreshments had been served long before that time and were working before the dancing began.

There was a policeman in plain clothes present who was not on duty. He was Frank McGowan of the West Forty-seventh street station, who had a day off.

Two of the men of the opposing factions bumped into each other in the refreshment room and after an electrical discharge of Bohemian one punched the other in the eye. McCutcheon and Devine pushed their way into the storm center and tried to call off the fight by ejecting one of the disturbers, Anthony Helwig. Helwig objected and several of his friends sided in with him.

"We are policemen, and you'll get out of this hall right away or we'll take you to the station," said Devine as he showed his police shield.

"I won't get out, nor will you put me out," came back Helwig.

McCutcheon caught him by the arm, but he broke away and the two went into a scuffle. Members of the factions came together and there was a general fight.

One man picked up a bottle and struck McCutcheon on the side of the head. Devine saw the bottle wielder was Helwig. McCutcheon went down to the floor, but was up on his feet in a moment. He pulled his revolver and shot Helwig in the leg, which took most of the fight out of that young man. Devine and his partner seized the young man and told him he was under arrest.

According to Devine's story to Magistrate Herbert in the Yorkville police court later, Policeman McGowan butted in here as a friend of Helwig. He broke in between the other two policemen and their prisoner and demanded:

"Who are you?"

"We are police officers," responded Devine.

"I'm a policeman just as much as you, I'll take care of this matter. Get away," the interfering policeman said.

The two plain clothes policemen refused to give up their prisoner and the fight which had stopped when the revolver cracked was resumed with greater violence. Devine declares that McGowan urged the crowd to attack him and McCutcheon and that McGowan drew a billy and made a crack at his head, but failed to do so. The riotous became furious. Bottles and glasses were flying through the air. Tables and chairs were upset and the broken pieces were used as weapons. Macchacek says a chair landed on his back and knocked him

down. Some one telephoned to the East Sixty-seventh street police station for more policemen. They arrived in time to save everybody's life and straightened things out. An ambulance took Helwig and McCutcheon to the Presbyterian Hospital.

McGowan was taken to the station and put in a cell until court opened. He didn't like his experience in the cell.

"Gee, how they did hit! I wonder where they got 'em all. They must have been saving 'em up for Christmas," he said to one of his friends in court.

"What dye mean, bugs?" inquired the friend.

"If it was only bugs I could stand it. The bugs were as hungry as though they had been fasting since last New Year's, but there were other things. I've been busy brushing off my clothes since I came out of that cell."

The Board of Health is credited with

objections to bugs that function on the nose of the city and it is expected to land in Sixty-seventh street this morning with a large variety of ill smelling things that are death to bugs, official or non-official.

Sergt. Dunham of the legal bureau at Police Headquarters was in court with Lieut. Fennell of the West Forty-seventh street station. Dunham asked Magistrate Herbert to postpone the examination until to-morrow so as to learn how badly McCutcheon was injured. The Magistrate wanted to know some of the particulars about the trouble.

"This defendant, Policeman McGowan, was arrested for interfering with an officer," said Devine. "He tried to rescue our prisoner, who had struck McCutcheon, my partner, on the head with a bottle. McCutcheon is supposed to have a fracture of the skull. McGowan urged the men in the place to attack us."

"From what you say I think a charge

of assault should be made against the defendant. I will entertain such a complaint, but I will not parole him," the Magistrate said.

Sergt. Dunham had suggested that the policeman be paroled. He had seen Manager Macchacek and he had seen McGowan butt in and try to take the prisoner from the two policemen. He added that he saw Helwig hit the policeman with the bottle.

The Magistrate decided to postpone the examination until to-morrow afternoon and said he would hold the policeman in \$1,000 bail. McGowan expected to get a bondsman, but none had arrived at noon and he was taken downstairs to take his dinner with the other prisoners. He said he had not urged the crowd to attack the policeman nor had he tried to rescue them. He had been drinking, he said, and might have given some strong talk to his brother policemen.

THE WEATHER.
Dec. 25.—The storm which was in the Southwest on Friday moved northeastward to the lake regions, where it was central yesterday morning, attended by snow, which also covered a part of the Central States, the Ohio and Tennessee valleys, the middle Atlantic States and New England. Main fell in the Southern States except southern Florida, where it was generally fair. Fair weather was general over the country west of the Mississippi River.

It was colder throughout the Rocky Mountain region eastward to the Mississippi and south to Texas with freezing temperatures. It was growing warmer in the extreme Northwest owing to a depression coming in over the north Pacific. In the Atlantic States it was slightly colder in the morning.

In this city snow began to fall in the forenoon; slightly colder; wind, light northeast; average humidity, 75 per cent.; barometer, corrected to sea level, at 8 A. M., 30.25; 3 P. M., 30.35. The temperature yesterday, as recorded by the official thermometer, is shown in the annexed table.

LOWEST TEMPERATURE, 30°; at 10 P. M.
WASHINGTON FORECAST FOR TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.
For eastern New York, snow to-day and colder in extreme southern portion, with high north to northwest winds; fair to-morrow.

For New England, snow to-day, with high northerly winds; generally fair to-morrow.

For eastern Pennsylvania, snow to-day, followed by clearing in southern portion; colder, with high northerly winds; fair to-morrow.

For New Jersey, snow and colder to-day, with high northerly winds; fair to-morrow.

For Delaware, snow to-day, followed by clearing and colder, with high northerly winds; fair to-morrow.

For Maryland, snow this morning, followed by clearing except in the mountains, and colder break to high northerly winds; fair to-morrow.

For western New York, snow to-day, cloudy and probably local snow to-morrow; break to high north to northwest winds.

Blumenkron

Waldorf-Astoria Side
42 West 34th StreetBEGINNING MONDAY,
DECEMBER TWENTY-SEVENTHThe Occasion of Our
Second Semi-Annual
Clearance Sale

50% Discount

from the present price of

Every Suit, Gown & Coat
In Our Stock

The sale involves every Suit, Gown, Coat and Wrap in our stocks without restrictions or limitations, to be sold at a discount of 50% from its present price.

For illustration—a gown or suit may have been priced at the beginning of the season at \$100 and subsequently reduced to \$75, it is now \$37.50. A suit originally \$25 reduced to \$17 may now be had for \$8.50.

This illustration applies to every piece involved in the sale.

It is patent that the opportunity is an exceptional one, because the 50% discount in most instances will be deducted from prices that already show very substantial reductions.

While Furs, Waists, Neckwear & Skirts are not subject to the 50% discount they have all been radically reduced in price.

The price policy of this shop has been unique and original from the outset. It took the initiative in breaking away from the common practice of quoting exaggerated price comparisons.

Since we will not carry garments from one season to another, this sale will continue until every garment is disposed of.

Blumenkron

Waldorf-Astoria Side
42 West 34th StreetTHIS 50% REDUCTION
CLEARANCE SALEis a
Distinct & Radical
Innovation in theManner of Disposing
of Overstocks in High Class

Outer Apparel

for Women & Misses

Saks & Company

ANNOUNCE FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 27THAn Important Reduction Sale of
Suits, Coats & Wraps for WomenComprising a selection from our choicest high
grade models of this season and including
Tailored Suits Three-piece Suits
Model Suits Street Coats
Evening Wraps & Tourist CoatsThe reductions take little account of the former selling prices—
and in view of the distinctive elegance of the designs and materials,this event provides one of the most remarkable
opportunities ever presented in New York City

Tailored Suits FORMERLY UP TO 25.00 WILL BE SOLD AT 14.00

" FORMERLY UP TO 35.00 WILL BE SOLD AT 18.00

" FORMERLY UP TO 45.00 WILL BE SOLD AT 28.00

3-piece Suits FORMERLY UP TO 45.00 WILL BE SOLD AT 28.00

Dressy Two & Three-piece Tailored Suits

FORMERLY UP TO 95.00 WILL BE SOLD AT 44.00

Black Broadcloth Street Coats & Tourist Coats

Colored Broadcloth Coats for street or evening wear

Fur-trimmed & Fancy Evening Coats

FORMERLY UP TO 45.00 all at 23.00

We have also prepared, and will exhibit Monday,

a most attractive display of entirely new creations in

Dancing Dresses of chiffon or crepe de cygne

Robe Dresses of crepe meteor and jet

New House or Afternoon Dresses of taffeta silk

AT PRICES RANGING FROM 29.50 TO 165.00

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27TH—IMPORTANT SPECIAL SALE OF

Tailored Suits & Dresses

for Girls, Misses & Small Women

Tailored Suits

Two or three-piece models, of wide wale chevrons, wor-

steds, broadcloths and homespuns, in a wide range of styles

and colorings; sizes 12 to 16 years. Values 19.00 to 25.00 9.50

Values 19.00 29.50 35.00

at 9.50 14.00 22.00

Dresses—14, 16 & 18 years

Suitable for street, afternoon or evening wear

Fashioned of chiffon broadcloths, wide wale worsteds,

serge, satin cloths, messalines or fancy figured nets.

Values 15.00 29.50 35.00

at 7.50 14.50 19.75

Dresses for Girls & Juniors—6 to 14 years

Suitable for school or afternoon wear

A wide range of middie, guimpe or Russian models, fashioned

of imported broadcloths, storm serges, challies or albatross.

Values 9.75 15.00 24.50

at 5.00 9.75 15.00

BEGINNING MONDAY

An Extraordinary Sale of

Fur Coats & Sets

for Women

also

Fur Sets for Girls & Children

A prompt and drastic readjustment

of stocks has been necessitated by

the great holiday business—and we

intend to effect it by means of

price reductions

It is impossible to state in advance

the details of the offering, but

the prices will be so attractive that

you will feel amply repaid by com-

ing early in order to secure the

most advantageous selection

Broadway at 34th Street

BEGINNING MONDAY

An Important Sale of

Evening Slippers

for Women

2.85

Values \$4, \$5 & \$6, at

The latest and most carefully se-

lected models of the day—distinct-

ive effects which include a very

considerable proportion of our

regular stocks.

Models: pumps, strap sandals,

eclipse ties, sailors, Cleopatras

or Du Barrys.

Leathers: suedes in gray or

black; bronze kids; patent

leathers, beaded glazed kids,

satins or kids in black, white,

pink, blue or lavender